Visually handicapped job seekers

254. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the existing number of visually handicapped (blind) job seekers on the live register of the employment exchanges in Andhra Pradesh, gender-wise;

(b) the number of those who were provided with jobs through the employment exchanges during the last three years, year-wise; and

(c) what action Government propose to take to ensure that blind job seekers in the State get employment within a time frame ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) Number of visually handicapped job seekers, all of whom are not necessarily unemployed, on the Live Register of the Employment Exchanges (including Special Employment Exchange) in Andhra Pradesh as on 31-12-2001 was of the order of 6,566. Gender-wise information for various categories of disabled are not maintained.

(b) Number of visually handicapped job seekers rehabilitated (either through wage-paid employment or self-employment) economically through Employment Exchange/Vocational Rehabilitation Centres for Handicapped were of the order of 42, 45 and 59 during 1999, 2000 and 2001 respectively.

(c) Employment Exchanges do not create jobs nor do they implement any employment generation schemes. Employment Exchanges sponsor the candidate as per the Notification by the employer and this depends on the jobs created in the economy.

Abuse of core labour standards

255. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU) has alleged India for abuse of all core labour standards;

(b) whether as per its report 50 million children are at work out of whom 50 per cent are engaged in dangerous professions and 10 percent of the 8 lakh workers in diamond industry are below 14 years who work for 12 hours a day;

(c) whether the Indian Trade Union Congress has also not opposed the ICFTU's report; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Report of the Second Labour Commission

256. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have since received the recommendations of the Second Labour Commission;

(b) if so, what are its main recommendations;

(c) whether the contract labour system is also prevalent in communist countries like China and Malaysia; and

(d) if so, what is Government's decision on adoption of the contract labour system in India ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Commission has submitted its Report to the Government on 29-06-2002. The recommendations of the Commission cover various aspects of labour viz. review of laws, social security, women and child labour, skill development, labour administration, unorganised sector and other matters.

(c) and (d) The contract labour system is permitted in China and Malaysia. Whereas in China, the labour contract must be in accordance with the relevant laws and regulations of the Peoples Republic of China, the contract labour system in Malaysia is freely allowed and there is no law for protection of the contract labour. In India, the employment of contract labour is governed by the Contract Labour (Regulations and Abolition) Act, 1970.